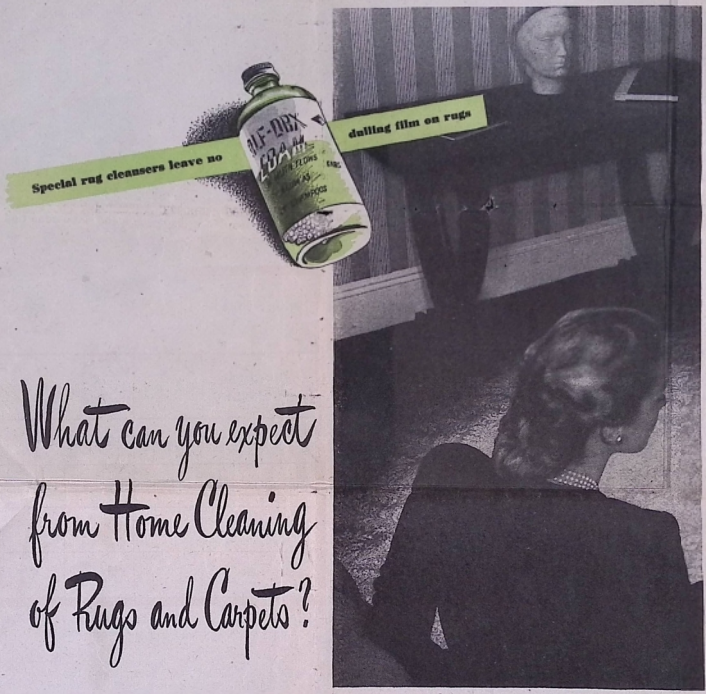

What can you expect from Home Cleaning of Rugs and Carpets?

If you ever have put a small washable rug in your washing machine at home, you have a good idea of the amount of soil there is in floor coverings. The first wash water looks almost like mud, and it takes sudsing after sudsing and plenty of rinsing to get the rug clean and its color fresh again. That is why it is so important to keep your rugs and carpets just as clean as you possibly can by regular care.

First Comes Cleaning. We sometimes wonder whether housekeepers really appreciate the value of good cleaning equipment in keeping their rugs and carpets clean. A good vacuum cleaner will take out not only the surface dirt but the grit that gets deep into the pile. We think it is important to use your vacuum cleaner every day if need be, especially in rooms that are used a great deal. Then you will pick up dirt and grit from the surface before they have time to be pushed down into the pile. A good carpet sweeper is important, too, because its convenience invites prompt and frequent removal of crumbs and other litter before stains and ground-in soil result. Keep your cleaning equipment in good condition. Empty your carpet sweeper and your vacuum-cleaner bag after each use, and keep brushes clean and in good order.

Consider Professional Washing, Too. No matter how carefully you clean your rugs and carpets from day to day, the time will come when they need washing. This can be done thoroughly only by a professional rug cleaner. If you are budget-minded, the way to handle this is to stagger the sending out of your rugs, so that the cost of cleaning is not such a burden.

What You Yourself Can Do. Women often ask us at Good Housekeeping Institute if they can wash their rugs at home. We have spent many hours finding out the facts, and our experience has taught us that we really cannot duplicate professional rug washing, because homes are not equipped with such things as washing platforms, and scrubbing